

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0154
Inventors: Sun et al.
Serial No.: 09/762,027
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REMARKS

Claims 10-12 are pending in the instant application. Claims 10-12 have been rejected. Claim 10 has been amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the specification and in particular at page 5, lines 3-20, page 10, line 30 through page 11, line 27, and page 13, line 21 through page 15, line 9 wherein antibodies are described. No new matter is added by this amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of this amendments and the following remarks.

Rejection of Claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph

Claims 10-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner suggests that these claims are indefinite over the recitation of "an isolated antibody that specifically binds Mam004 (SEQ ID NO:4)" since SEQ ID NO:4 is an mRNA molecule and it is unclear whether the claims refers to an antibody which binds to the mRNA or a protein encoded thereby. The Examiner has acknowledged the specification to discuss antibodies which specifically bind to BSG polypeptides. However, the Examiner suggests that the

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specification does not discuss antibodies which specifically bind to BSG polynucleotides.

Accordingly, in an earnest effort to advance the prosecution of this case, Applicants have amended the claims to state that the antibody specifically binds a protein encoded by Mam004 (SEQ ID NO:4). Support for this amendment is provided in the specification at page 5, lines 3-20, page 10, line 30 through page 11, line 27, and page 13, line 21 through page 15, line 9.

Withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and subsequent allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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